

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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PASS TREASURY

ALSO FOR USEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EEC, BE
SUBJECT: EHRENHAFT MEETING WITH BELGIAN GOVERNMENT AND
STEEL INDUSTRY OFFICIALS

1. ON JANUARY 16, 1978, TREASURY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY PETER EHRENHAFT AND BEN L. IRVIN, OF US CUSTOMS, MET WITH JACQUES GROOHTHAERT, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND OTHER BELGIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS WELL AS JEAN GHISLAIN OF BELGIAN STEEL INDUSTRY GROUP.

2. MEETING PROCEEDED IN A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE AS AN OPEN, CANDID AND COOPERATIVE DISCUSSION ON U.S. ANTIDUMPING LAW AND THE TRIGGER PRICE MECHANISM (TPM).

3. EHRENHAFT DISCUSSED FOLLOWING POINTS:

- (A) HOW U.S. ANTIDUMPING LAW OPERATES;
 - (B) TRIGGER PRICE MECHANISM;
 - (C) FAST-TRACK ANTIDUMPING INVESTIGATIONS; AND
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(D) QUESTIONNAIRE AND TYPE OF INFORMATION NEEDED FOR TPM AND FAST-TRACK INVESTIGATIONS.

4. BELGIANS ASKED QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE FATE OF CURRENT ANTIDUMPING CASES VIS-A-VIS TPM. BELGIAN STEEL OFFICIALS INTERESTED IN NATIONAL STEEL CASE AND INQUIRED AS TO NEED TO COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE. EHRENHAFT RESPONDED THAT

GILMORE CASE UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE PURSUED AND OTHERS MIGHT
BE DISCONTINUED BY TREASURY OR WITHDRAWN BY STEEL INDUSTRY
IF TPM EFFECTIVE. EHRENHAFT TOLD BELGIAN STEEL OFFICIALS
THAT STEEL QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY COMPANIES.
HE ALSO ENCOURAGED BELGIANS TO SUBMIT QUARTERLY AGGREGATE
INDUSTRY INFORMATION THROUGH US EMBASSY AS THIS DATA
DESIRABLE TO HELP CHECK RELIABILITY OF TPM. CHAMBERS

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Message Attributes

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